

NEWS RELEASE

STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

450 N Street Sacramento California 95814

BETTY T. YEE Acting Member, BOE First District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NR# 63-Y

Date: September 20, 2005

Contact: Anita Gore Communications Office

(916) 327-8988

Website: http://www.boe.ca.gov

YEE ANNOUNCES FREE E-FILE SERVICE FOR SALES AND USE TAX

State Board of Equalization (BOE) Acting Member Betty T. Yee today announced the BOE will soon launch its free electronic filing or "BOE-File" service for eligible taxpayers' sales and use tax returns.

BOE-File offers businesses a fast and convenient method to easily file sales and use tax returns. The service will be available at no cost to them starting September 26, 2005, on the BOE website at www.boe.ca.gov.

RAMON J. HIRSIG Executive Director

The BOE has offered electronic filing of sales and use tax returns since 2001 through a partnership with third party service providers for fees ranging from \$4.95 to \$9.95. Nearly 2,000 returns were filed the first year, and the number of electronic filers has increased annually. Over 16,600 returns were e-filed in the last fiscal year.

Single-outlet retail taxpayer accounts, including temporary accounts, are eligible to E-File forms BOE-401-EZ and BOE-401-A with Schedule A and T only. Taxpayers who are required to remit payment via Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) are not currently eligible.

The BOE plans to provide additional electronic services in the future. More information on the free service is available by clicking "E-file" on the BOE website at www.boe.ca.gov.

Acting Board Member Betty T. Yee, of San Francisco, assumed the First District seat on the Board of Equalization in 2004.

The five-member Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The Board collects more than \$44 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and plays a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes.

Other Board Members include Bill Leonard of Sacramento/Ontario, Second District; Claude Parrish of Long Beach, Third District; Chairman John Chiang of Los Angeles, Fourth District and State Controller Steve Westly.